

STATINTL

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CIA Job Not Backstage Intrigue

Is the Central Intelligence Agency up to its old tricks?

What I mean is: Does the CIA stick to its job of collecting intelligence or has it once again strayed off limits and attempted to dictate United States foreign policy?

Under Alan Dulles the CIA got us in many a jam — the badly planned Bay of Pigs invasion, to mention the most recent example.

Then came the replacement of Dulles by John McCone, a choice deplored by this columnist as well as by many others.

The new regime was supposed to stick to its knitting and leave policy making to the President — where it belongs.

But now witness an item in a recent issue of the right-wing publication "Human Events":

"CIA is safe. Once again it is being made to take the public rap for the Sifts It was the CIA that fed Sen. Keating most of the facts that he made public in an effort to force the President to act" (in Cuba).

CIA agents are presumably sworn to secrecy and aloofness to policymaking decisions.

Why then are they allowed (if this item be true) to leak information to a partisan Senator? Do agents of this super-secret, unsupervised agency customarily carry tales to Capitol Hill when they regard the President as unresponsive to their desired action?

If the "Human Events" story be false, why has not CIA head McCone demanded a retraction?

There are many in Washington who believe that it was the CIA who inspired the Alsop-Bartlett Saturday Evening Post hatchet-job on Adlai Stevenson.

The CIA job is to collect information—not to engage in backstage intrigue.

Nor are they within the scope of their special function when they promote their own view of U. S. foreign policy and bring pressures to bear on the President to get it carried out.

If "Human Events" has wronged the CIA, its publication not being a repre-

manded and a retraction demanded?

Are you one of those who find the telephone company's all-digital dialing annoying?

Perhaps you will get some comfort from an answer received from Eugene J. McNeely, president of American Telephone and Telegraph Co.

He promises some relief from the necessity to remember long strings of numbers. "Early next year," he says, "telephone companies will start nationwide marketing of automatic dialers."

"These dialers will utilize plastic cards or magnetic tape on which the customer's frequently called numbers have been recorded."

"You'll be able to dial these numbers by doing little more than inserting a card or turning a knob."

"Electronic switching equipment, which we have tested in Morris, Ill., and which is now in commercial production, also will simplify dialing."

"When the electronic central offices are in operation—around mid-1965 — you'll be able to reach oft-called telephones by dialing only two numbers."

One of the witnesses at the recent House Un-American Activities Committee hearing into the Women's Strike for Peace movement was 72-year old Elizabeth Moos.

She made the apt comment: "I think this committee is doing a great disservice when it tries to attribute every effort for peace to the Communists. Do you think they want peace more than we do?"

Voices of protest at the HUAC hearings included the following:

"The Committee's stated purpose is to investigate 'Communist infiltration into the peace movement' but such an inquiry will inevitably stifle the voices of those who dissent from the government policies in the Cold War." —American Civil Liberties Union

"For the first time in history,

where preparation for war is killing people and damaging their health and heredity. . . . Women would not be normal if they did not react strongly in these dangers to their most basic functions—the producing and sustaining of Life. . . .

"It will look strange indeed to thoughtful Americans and to the rest of the world at this moment, when the U.S. is in the midst of negotiations for a test ban agreement and for world disarmament, if your Committee impugns the motives and attempts to discredit and silence this healthy upsurge of public opinion." — Women's Int'l. League for Peace & Freedom

"In such a movement of thousands of individuals motivated by a common concern it would be surprising if there were not some who would be vulnerable by reason of other associations, past or present. Persons who, in their anxiety to find a means of building a peaceful, decent world, have been tempted at one point or another by the blandishments of the Communist position, are no less human beings, no less concerned for the lives of their loved ones, than any of the rest of us. The discovery of such persons, if they exist, would in no sense compromise the deep loyalty of the overwhelming majority of women active in this movement." —The Fellowship of Reconciliation

"The House Committee is in fact playing into the hands of the Communists by eliminating one of the major differences between them and us: the fact that we stand for free expression. . . ." —Ephraim London for the American Jewish Congress

"Disarmament under effective international control and a strong United Nations, imperatives of our time, are stated goals of Women's Strike for Peace. A group of citizens working for these goals within our constitutional framework should be commended, not condemned." —Rep. William F. Ryan (D., N.Y.)